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Message Text

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TAGS: PEPR, GR, TU, CY, US

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST
REF: STATE 28768
FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS RELATING TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN FROM CORRECTED VERSION OF TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING BEFORE SUB-COMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, JANUARY 31. SUB-COMMITTEE ANTICIPATES PUBLISHING TRANSCRIPT IN EARLY MARCH.

BEGIN TEXT

MR. HAMILTON: THE FIRST QUESTION I WANT TO RAISE MR. SECRETARY RELATES TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. IN YOUR
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AID REQUESTS FOR GREECE AND TURKEY FOR FISCAL YEAR '79 YOU ASK ONLY FOR FMS CREDITS STATING IN THE REQUEST THAT HIGHER LEVELS OF AID AND GRANT AID WOULD BE REQUESTED IF THE DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS ARE SIGNED AND RATIFIED.

LAST YEAR EVEN THOUGH WE DID NOT CONSIDER THE DCA YOU REQUEST GRANT MILITARY AID FOR BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. BECAUSE OF SECTION 620(X) THERE WAS NO GRANT AID OF COURSE FOR TURKEY BUT GREECE DID RECEIVE 35 MILLION DOLLARS OF GRANT AID.

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THE QUESTION IS WHY IS THERE A CHANGE THIS YEAR. WHY NO GRANT AID REQUESTS IN THE PRESENTATION? ARE THEY NOT NEEDED? ARE THEY NOT JUSTIFIABLE?

MR. VEST: OUR APPROACH IS THAT LAST YEAR'S GRANT AID WAS PUT IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE A TRANSITIONAL PHASE INTO THE PRESENT. THE PRESENT SITUATION IS SIMPLY THAT WE HAVE USED THE FMS WHICH WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BEEN FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE DCA'S IF THEY WERE IN OPERATION AS A NORMAL BASIS, LEAVING IT OPEN FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL TO GO FOR GRANT AID IF THE DCA'S WERE APPROVED. WE FELT THIS WAS A RATIONAL BASIS UPON WHICH TO OPERATE THIS YEAR.

MR. HAMILTON: HAVE YOU GOTTEN ANY REACITON FROM THE GREEKS OR THE TURKS IN THIS NEW SUBMISSION?

MR. VEST: WE HAVE HAD SOME REACTION IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM. OUR EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN THAT IN THIS AREA, THERE ARE ALWAYS POINTS OF DISCONTENT WHATEVER WE DO; BUT WE FEEL THAT OUR APPROACH IS ON A RATIONAL, DEFENSIBLE BASIS. IT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE DCA'S. IF THE DCA'S COME ALONG WE WOULD BE ABLE TO COME UP WITH A

SUPPLEMENTAL. IN THE MEANTIME THE WHOLE APPROACH OF THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN IF POSSIBLE TO AVOID GRANT AID.

AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE MILITARY AID FOR--I BELIEVE IT IS-- SPAIN UNDER THE TREATY, PORTUGAL, AND POSSIBLY THE PHILIPPINES. I AM NOT TOO SURE OF THAT.

MR. HAMILTON: ONE VIEW MIGHT BE THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS TRYING TO USE THE GRANT AID WITH REGARD TO GREECE AS A LEVERAGE TO GET THEM TO SIGN THE DCA. HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND TO THAT?

MR. VEST: THAT WAS NOT THE APPROACH WE BROUGHT TO THIS. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE APPROVED THE DCA'S IN PRINCIPLE. WE DID NOT INTEND THIS AS A LEVER.

MR. HAMILTON: SECRETARY VANCE WAS IN GREECE AND TURKEY RECENTLY AND A DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "THE SITUATION LOOKS BETTER THAN IT HAS FOR YEARS."

DO YOU AGREE WITH THAT OBSERVATION AND IF YOU DO WHY? WHY WAS IT MADE?

MR. VEST: LET ME MAKE AN OBSERVATION, SIR, IF I MAY, IN RELATION TO THAT. I THINK ON THE BASIS OF HIS VISIT THERE I WOULD SAY WE ARE ENCOURAGED. I DON'T WANT TO GO

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OVERBOARD WITH HYPERBOLE IN THIS SITU;TION. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BECAUSE ECEVIT PROVED TO BE--AS HE HAS BEEN KNOWN TO BE FOR SO LONG--A MAN OF DYNAMISM, ACTIVISM; WANTING TO GRAB HOLD OF THE NETTLE OF THE PROBLEMS HE HAS IN CYPRUS. THAT IS A VERY ENCOURAGING THING.

MR. HAMILTON: WHAT KIND OF CONVERSATIONS HAVE WE HAD WITH ECEVIT THAT LED US TO THAT KIND OF VIEW?

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MR. VEST: I THINK YOU WOULD HAVE TO CONCLUDE, BASED PRIMARILY ON CONVERSATIONS HE HAS HAD BOTH WITH OUR AMBAS-SADOR AND WITH SECRETARY VANCE, THAT HE DOES INDEED WANT TO GRASP THE NETTLE OF HIS PROBLEMS AND THIS IS DEMON-STRATED BY THE FACT THAT HE HAS ISSUED AN INVITATION TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FOR THE TWO OF THEM TO MEET PERSONALLY AND DISCUSS THESE MATTERS.

MR. HAMILTON: HAVE WE TALKED WITH HIM ABOUT TAKING STEPS TOWARD A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS, IF NECESSARY UNILATERAL STEPS, SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN ORDER TO ENABLE US TO LIFT THE EMBARGO?

MR. VEST: I THINK ANY CONVERSATION WITH THE TURKS WOULD AUTOMATICALLY INVOLVE THE PREMISE WHICH THEY ARE VERY FAMILIAR WITH, THAT THERE ARE STRONG RESERVATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ABOUT GOING AHEAD WITH THE DCA'S UNTIL SOMETHING HAS BEEN DONE ABOUT CYPRUS. NOW ECEVIT'S POSITION ON CYPRUS WAS THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT; THAT HE PREFERRED TO DO IT DIRECTLY; AND THAT HE DID NOT WISH US TO TAKE INTERVENING ACTION OR TO BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED; LEAVING IT TO US--AS HE RECOMMENDED-- TO REINFORCE THE TALKS WHICH OPERATE UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

MR. HAMILTON: WHAT CONDITIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE MET BEFORE THE PRESIDENT COULD DETERMINE THAT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE.

MR. VEST: I DON'T THINK I COULD GIVE YOU SPECIFIC CON-DITIONS, MR. CHAIRMAN. WE HAVE ALL ALONG WISHED TO SEE IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN BECAUSE THAT WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR ALL PARTIES TO
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CONSIDER IT WAS TIME TO MOVE. BUT I CAN'T GIVE YOU

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SPECIFIC CONDITIONS.

MR. HAMILTON: WELL, THOSE CONDITIONS WOULD CERTAINLY RELATE TO A NEW CONSTITUTION, TROOP WITHDRAWALS, TERRITORIAL WITHDRAWALS.

MR. VEST: IT WOULD RELATE TO TERRITORY, CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SO ON.

MR. HAMILTON: DOES THE ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT THE REPEAL OF SECTION 620(A) AND CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF TURKISH U.S. DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT?

MR. VEST: OUR POSITION AT THE PRESENT TIME IS WE SUPPORT THE DCA'S IN PRINCIPLE, AND WE WILL COME BACK TO YOU LATER WHEN WE CONSIDER THE SITUATION IS RIGHT.

MR. HAMILTON: DID MR. ECEVIT PRESS SECRETARY VANCE FO

ACTION BY US THIS YEAR ON THE DCA?

MR. VEST: I WAS NOT WITH MR. VANCE FOR THOSE CONVERSATIONS AND I DON'T THINK I CAN ANSWER THAT.

MR. HAMILTON: THERE WERE RUMORS LAST YEAR THAT THE TURKS WOULD ASK THE UNITED STATES TO PULL OUT OF TURKEY COMPLETELY IF WE DID NOT APPROVE THE DCA EARLY IN 1978.

IS THAT RUMOR DEVELOPED ANY FURTHER? DO WE HAVE ANY WORD FROM THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO THAT EFFECT?

MR. VEST: NO, THAT CONTINUES TO BE ONLY A RUMOR.

MR. HAMILTON: WHY HAS THE GREEK GOVERNMENT NOT SIGNED THE DCA?

MR. VEST: I THINK THE GREEK GOVERNMENT SEES THE DCA AS RELATED TO A NUMBER OF THINGS. THEY SEE IT IN RELATION TO THEIR EFFORT TO REESTABLISH THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO AND MANY OTHER POLITICAL FACTORS, BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON THEY HAVE NOT COME FORWARD SO FAR.

MR. HAMILTON: CAN WE CONTINUE TO USE THE BASES THERE INDEFINITELY WITHOUT A RATIFIED DCA?

MR. VEST: I WOULD LIKE TO SAY AS FAR AS THAT IS CONCERNED THEY HAVE BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE. NO ONE CAN SAY THAT ANYTHING INDEFINITELY IS GOING TO BE AVAILABLE BUT IN THIS INTERVENING PERIOD THEY HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE ON THE USE OF THE BASES.

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MR. HAMILTON: WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS THAT YOU SEE IN THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS?

MR. VEST: THE NEXT STEPS ON THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATION WOULD

HAVE TO BE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS UNDER THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S AEGIS AND THE UNITED NATIONS.

MR. HAMILTON: ARE THOSE SCHEDULED NOW?

MR. VEST: THOSE I BELIEVE ARE NOT SCHEDULED AS YET. HOWEVER, SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM HAS BEEN THERE--HAS BEEN TALKING TO THE MAJOR PARTIES--AND FOR EFFECTIVE TALKS OBVIOUSLY THERE HAS TO BE A WILL, A DISPOSITION ON THE PART OF ALL OF THE INTERESTED PARTIES. NOW, WE HAVE A SITUATION IN WHICH WE HAVE RECENTLY HAD AN ELECTION IN GREECE. WE HAVE A NEWLY ESTABLISHED GOVERN-

MENT IN TURKEY. WE HAVE RECENTLY SEEN MR. KYPRIANOU ACCLAIMED AS THE PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS AND MR. DENKTASH HA

BEEN THERE ALL ALONG. SO THE INTERESTED PARTIES SO-TO-SPEAK ARE "IN PLACE" POLITICALLY.

MR. HAMILTON: WILL THERE BE A CLIFFORD MISSION THIS YEAR?

MR. VEST: WE HAVE NO EXACT PLANS FOR A MISSION BUT WE ARE KEEPING MR. CLIFFORD VERY CLOSELY INFORMED OF EVERY ACTIVITY.

AS I MENTIONED AT THIS STAGE, MR. ECEVIT HAS URGED THAT THEY BE LEFT TO TRY TO WORK THESE THINGS OUT THEMSELVES.

MR. HAMILTON: IS THAT ALSO THE FEELING OF CARAMANLIS?

MR. VEST: I THINK AT THE PRESENT TIME, YES. HE IS INTERESTED TO SEE WHAT THIS MEANS. HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT THIS OFFER FROM ECEVIT MEANS. AS THE SAME TIME HE HAS, AS I RECALL, ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT ASKED THAT THERE BE LOWER LEVEL TALKS TO EXPLORE WHAT THE POTENTIALITIES ARE.

IN A SENSE, THE MAJOR ACTORS HAVE SAID, "WE ARE INTERESTED IN DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THIS OURSELVES," AND THE QUESTION

IS WHAT ARE EACH OF THEM GOING TO PUT ON THE TABLE, AND THAT IS THE STAGE WE HAVE NOT REACHED.

MR. HAMILTON: WHEN WILL WE REACH IT?

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MR. VEST: I WOULD ASSUME WE WOULD BEGIN TO REACH THIS IN FEBRUARY. THERE IS, FOR EXAMPLE, A MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GREECE AND TURKEY IN FEBRUARY, AND IT IS
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POSSIBLE THAT EXPLORATORY CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE SUBORDINATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THAT TIME.

MR. HAMILTON: WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE SALE OF THE F-4 AIRCRAFT TO TURKEY?

MR. VEST: I WOULD HAVE TO GET THE EXACT FACTS ON THAT.

MR. HAMILTON: COULD YOU SUPPLY THAT FOR THE RECORD PLEASE?

MR. VEST: I AM TOLD IT IS CONTINUING AND WE HAVE WORKED OUT OUR FINANCING BUT WE WILL GIVE YOU EXACT DETAILS ON IT.

MR. HAMILTON: THANK YOU.

MR. FINDLEY: MR. VEST, I AM A LITTLE CONFUSED ABO'T THE ATTITUDE OF THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE DCA FOR BOTH TURKEY AND GREECE. COULD YOU SUM UP THE ADMINISTRATION POSITION ON THE DCA ISSUE FOR US?

MR. VEST: WE HAVE NEGOTIATED DCA'S WITH BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. THE DCA WITH TURKEY IS MERELY BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE AND NOT SENT FO;WARD FOR THE TIME BEING. THE DCA WITH GREECE HAS YET TO BE FINALLY SIGNED BY THE GREEKS AND AT THAT POINT IT WOULD COME TO US TO PRESENT TO CONGRESS IF WE WISH TO. NOW SINCE THESE DCA'S WERE LEGITIMATE NEGOTIATIONS ON OUR PART, AS AIDS TO STRAIGHTENING OUT THE PROBLEMS WE HAD, THEY ARE SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

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MR. FINDLEY: YOU FEEL BOUND BY EACH OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS, IS THAT CORRECT?

MR. VEST: THAT IS CORRECT. WITH THE.E TWO DCA'S THE QUESTION IS SIMPLY WHEN WILL THE GREEK ONE BE SIGNED AND WHEN WILL BE THE ADVANTAGEOUS TIME TO BRING THEM FORWARD TO CONGRESS?

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MR. FINDLEY: CAN YOU TELL US WHEN THAT ADVANTAGEOUS TIME WILL BE?

MR. VEST: NO, SIR, I CAN'T AT THE PRESENT TIME.

MR. FINDLEY: WILL IT BE WITHIN THIS YEAR?

MR. VEST: I CAN'T REALLY SAY. THERE ARE MANY FACTORS THAT SURROUND THE QUESTION OF WHAT IS THE OPTIMUM TIME. WE WISH TO CONCLUDE THESE DCA'S--BOTH OF THEM--BUT WE HAVE GOT TO FIND THE RIGHT MOMENT TO DO SO.

MR. FINDLEY: ARE YOU INCLINED TO THINK THAT ECEVIT IS SERIOUS ABOUT ATTEMPTING TO TAKE UP WITH THE GREEKS THE AEGEAN QUESTIONS?

MR. VEST: YES, I WOULD SIMPLY SAY I AM CONVINCED, FROM THE CONVERSATIONS I HAVE HAD REPORTED TO ME, THAT ECEVIT IS SERIOUS ABOUT EACH OF THE SSUES HE IS NOW FACED WITH. I THINK HE RECOGNIZES THAT THERE ARE MANY VERY LARGE MATTERS FOR TURKEY WHICH ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE; ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WEST, ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNTIED STATES, IT DEFENSE ORGANIZATION, ITS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC STABILITY. THESE ARE PRIMARY FACTORS, AND I THINK HE IS SERIOUS ABOUT WANTING TO GET RID OF ANYTH;NG WHICH STANDS IN THE WAY OF GETTING AT TH;SE LARGE ISSUES.

I WOULD HAVE TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECRETARY'S CONVER-
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SATIONS WITH BOTH MR. ECEVIT AND MR. CARAMANLIS--AS I UNDERSTAND IT--WERE REALLY VERY FORTHRIGHT, FRIENDLY AND SOLID.

MR. SOLARZ: MR. VEST, IF CONGRESS WERE TO APPROVE THE DCA WITH TURKEY WOULD THAT NECESSARILY INVOLVE THE ELIMINATION OF THE EMBARGO OR COULD THE EMBARGO THEORETICALLY CONTINUE IN THE FORM OF 620(X) EVEN THOUGH THE DCA HAD BEEN APPROVED.

MR. VEST: WITHOUT GOING INTO CONGRESSIONAL OR LEGAL ASPECTS I FIND IT HEARD TO UNDERSTAND WHY WE WOULD APPROVE THE DCA, WHICH IS INTENDED TO RESTORE THE RELATIONSHIP, AND MAINTAIN THE EMBARGO WHICH IS PENALIZING THE RELATIONSHIP. I HAVE SEEN THE TWO AS GOING TOGETHER.

MR. SOLARZ: FROM A PRACTICAL POINT OF VIEW IT WOULD MAKE NO SENSE TO APPROVE THE DCA AND CONTINUE THE EMBARGO'

MR. VEST: I DON'T THINK SO.

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MR. FOLARZ: DO YOU THINK THERE IS ANY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO AND THE ABILITY OF TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE KINDS OF CONCESSION AND COMPROMISES WHICH WILL BE NECESSARY FOR AN AGREEMENT ON CYPRUS. IN OTHER WORDS, TO WHAT EXTENT DOES THE EXISTENCE OF THE EMBARGO CREATE A SITUATION IN WHICH ECEVIT WILL BE LESS LIKELY TO OFFER CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS BECAUSE TO THE EXTENT HE DOES IT LOOKS AS IF HE IS YIELDING TO AMERICAN PRESSURE.

MR. VEST: THE INTERESTING THING IS AS FAR AS I CAN DETERMINE MR. ECEVIT SEPARATES THESE TWO THINGS AND TAKES
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A FIRM LINE SAYING HE IS GOING TO DEAL WITH THE CYPRUS ISSUE.

MR. SOLARZ: IN YOUR JUDGEMENT ELIMINATION OF THE EMBARGO AND APPROVAL OF THE DCA WOULD NOT FACILITATE AN AGREEMENT ON CYPRUS?

MR. VEST: LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY: THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THE EMBARGO AND THE INHIBITIONS THAT HAVE FLOWED FROM THAT, AND THE STALLED DCA HAVE CREATED A POOR ATMOSPHERE FOR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US AND THE TURKS TO THE EXTENT THAT SPILLS OVER INTO ANYTHING, IT IS NOT HELPFUL.

MR. SOLARZ: WOULDN'T THE ELIMINATION OF THE EMBARGO AND THE APPROVAL OF THE DCA TO THE EXTENT THAT IT DID FACILITATE AN IMPROVEMENT IN AMERICAN/TURKISH RELATIONSHIPS ENHANCE OUR INFLUENCE IN ANKARA AND GIVE US A BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS A CATALYST IN TH;S EFFORT TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON CYPRUS?

MR. VEST: TO THE EXTENT THAT WE NO LONGER HA, SUCH AN INHIBITING, DETRIMENTAL SITUATION IN OUR RELATIONSHIP IT CERTAINLY WOULD ENHANCE OUR ABILITY--OUR RELATIONSHIP RATHER--WITH THE TURKS AND THAT HAS BEEN, I THINK, RECOGNIZED ALL THE WAY THROUGH.

MR. SOLARZ: COULD YOU ASSESS FOR US THE IMPACT OF THE DEATH OF THE ARCHBISHOP AS WELL AS THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT ELECTIONS IN GREECE, ON THE ABILITY OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND THEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS FOR THE KIND OF COMPROMISES WHICH WILL BE NE.ESSARY FOR AN AGREEMENT WITH CYPRUS?

MR. VEST: WITHOUT GOING INTO GREAT PHILOSOPHICAL DETAIL HERE, THERE SIMPLY WAS A SITUATION IN WHICH THEY KNEW

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EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE DEALING WITH WHEN THEY HAD ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AS THE PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS.

WITH HIS DEPARTURE THERE HAS BEEN LESS CERTAINTY IN THEIR MINDS. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU WAS NOT A MAN WHO WAS KNOWN WELL IN TERMS OF HOW HE WOULD PERFORM. HOWEVER, AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HAS MOVED FORWARD VERY STALWARTLY AS WAS MOST RECENTLY ILLUSTRATED IN THE EPISODE WHEN HIS SON WAS KIDNAPPED. IN GREECE, YOU HAVE

THE OTHER FACTOR THAT PAPANDREOU EMERGED AS THE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGER. BUT THE MORE IMPORTANT FACTOR WAS SIMPLY THAT IN THAT ELECTION CARAMANLIS CAME OUT WITH HIS MANDATE AS THE SIGNIFICANT LEADER OF THE GREEKS CONFIRMED, AND AS SUCH CARAMANLIS IS IN A POSITION, I THINK, TO MAKE DECISIONS WHICH MAY NEED TO BE MADE.

MR. SOLARZ: WHAT ABOUT THE ARGUMENT THAT MAKARIOS WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD SUFFICIENT STATURE TO LEGITIMATIZE THE KINDS OF CONCESSIONS WHICH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE JUST AS THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WILL

HAVE TO MAKE CONCESSIONS IF THERE IS GOING TO BE AN AGREEMENT AND OBJECTIVELY HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE SCENE IS IS COMPLICATED BY THE POSSIBILITIES FOR AGREEMENT BECAUSE KYPRIANOU LACKS THE STATURE TO GET AWAY WITH MAKING THOSE CONCESSIONS.

MR. VEST: NO QUESTION THAT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS WAS IN A POWERFUL POSITION TO LEAD SENTIMENT, AND TO LEAD PEOPLE IN HIS COUNTRY. ON THE OTHER HAND, AS THE SITUATION CONTINUES, THE SELF-INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE, I TH;NK, TENDS TO BECOME CLEARER AND I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD TAKE

THE POSITION THAT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND THE OTHER LEADERS IN CYPRUS ARE NOT ABLE TO SEE THAT SELF-INTEREST.

MR. SOLARZ: YOU INDICATED IN YOUR RESPONSES TO CHAIRMAN AMILTON THAT YOU WERE WAITING FOR THE MOMENT TO RIPEN EFORE ADVOCATING THE APPROVAL OF THE DCA. AND THAT IT IS BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE.

IF IT IS HELD IN ABEYANCE MUCH LONGER WE MIGHT FORGET THAT IT WAS ORIGINALLY CONCL;DED. IN THINK A NUMBER OF US ARE CHAFFING AT THE BIT HERE. MY FRIEND FINDLEY

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BROKE LOOSE FROM THE GATE THE LAST TIME WE HAD THE
FOREIGN AID BILL, IN HIS MOTION TO RECOMMIT. AND SOME OF
US MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RESTRAIN OURSELVES THIS TIME AROUND.
I HAVE NO DOUBT THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY AT LEAST
ON THIS SUBCOMMITTEE ANDPROBABLY IN OUR FULL COMMITTEE
AND I SUSPECT AMONG OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE HOUSE TOWARD
THE DCA.

MY FRIEND ROSENTHAL MIGHT HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS ON TH;T.

MR. VEST: HE ARRIVED JUST IN TIME.

MR. SOLARZ: HIS AGENTS WONDERED WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GET
TO THIS QUESTION. MY QUESTION IS THIS:

IF WE TIRE OF YOUR REFLECTIONS ON THIS ISSUE AND DECIDE
TO MOVE AHEAD OURSELVES AND PROCEED TO RECOMMEND TO THE
CONGRESS THAT WE APPROVE THE DCA BY REPORTING OUT THE
APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION, WHAT WILL YOU DO AT THAT TIME?
WILL YOU INDICATE THAT YOU ARE OPPOSED TO THE APPROVAL
OF THE DCA AT THAT TIME OR WOULD WE BE ABLE TO COUNT
ON YOUR RELUCTANT SUPPORT?

MR. VEST: YOU ARE ASKING ME SOME MAGNIFICENT HYPOTHETICAL
QUESTIONS, WHICH I CAN'T REALLY ANSWER AT THIS STAGE.
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WE WELCOME YOUR VIEWS AND WANT TO KNOW HOW THE SENTIMENT
OF THE CONGRESS STANDS. AS I HAVE SAID, AT THE MOMENT,
WE HAVE TO WAIT AND MAKE OUR JUDGEMENT ON THIS.

MR. FINDLEY: WILL YOU YIELD FOR A QUESTION.

WOULD THE ADMINISTRATION WELCOME GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN
DEALING WITH THE EMBARGO ON TURKEY? WAS THE EFFECT OF MY
RECOMMITTAL AMENDMENT TO LET THE ADMINISTRATION DECIDE
WHEN TO LIFT THE EMBARGO?

MR. VEST: I THINK WE HAVE HAD TO TAKE THE WHOLE PACKAGE
INVOLVING GREECE AND TURKEY AND SAY WE HAVE TO WAIT,
WE HAVE TO FIND THE RIGHT MOMENT TO MAKE PROGRESS AND
WE HOPE THAT WILL EMERGE THIS YEAR BUT WE HAVE TO SEE
WHAT COMES. END TEXT. VANCE

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